

NICHOLAS RAY

April 1st, 1972

Mr. Ralph Hocking
T.V. Educational Center
164 Court Street
Binghamton, New York

Dear Ralph,

I've been working my usual long and unconventional hours, and ask your understanding in taking so long to answer your note of February 17th.

It seems ridiculous to me that you (or I) must petition for grants through public support when it could and should be administered through the recognition of accomplishment and need, ~~by~~ by people who, I suppose, are learned in our fields.

Your accomplishments with the Center at 164 Court Street during the brief time I have known you and observed the growth of the Center itself need only a before-and-now photo to remind those who do administer money how far you've advanced your program since last August. Any student of mine who does not avail himself of the facilities and a brush with your philosophy is, in my opinion, a dolt.

As you've probably noticed, in recent weeks I've been attempting to labor you less by sending you only the best; yet I know I must eventually send each one of them to you or else I would not be fulfilling my function as a teacher as I conceive it.

But prepare for a new invasion. Each 11th or 12th grade high school class I've spoken to in recent weeks has been given your address.

Some affaccianados on the University level choose

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to think that I'm abandoning my rebel cause for "true art" when I so wholeheartedly endorse your program. They make an expert feel like a specialist a long ways from home -- until they get a taste of what you're doing.

Let's get lots of bread. Maybe we can do something together like helping people say hello to each other.

All good things.

Sincerely,

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Hey! I need some of your Time this week to look at footage of my own film which is about ready, in part, to go to the lab for its multiple image beauty treatment. I must have at least twenty minutes ready by the 25th of April. You call me - I'll call you - Yrs.

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